GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5143
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2005
REVIEW OF FUNCTIONING OF PRASAR BHARATI
Acharia Shri Basudeb;Jagannath Dr. M.;Kamat Shri Gurudas;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to take a relook at the functioning of Prasar Bharati as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated April 4, 2005;

(b) if so, whether the Government has constituted any Committee for financial restructuring of Prasar Bharati;

(c) if so, the composition of the Committee; and

(d) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report to the Government?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (d): On 30th March, 2005, the Government has constituted a Committee to suggest a viable capital and financial structure for Prasar Bharati to strengthen its functioning. The ten Member Committee is headed by Secretary (I&B) and represented by senior-level officers of the Ministry of I&B as well as the Prasar Bharati, Adviser (C&I), Planning Commission, and Joint Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance. The Committee may also invite experts from within and outside the Government to participate in its deliberations and contribute towards finalizing its recommendations.

A time-limit of three months has been prescribed for submission of the Report by the Committee.